

Message Text

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ACTION INR-07

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FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 2625

C O N F I D E N T I A L ANKARA 1633

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: PDIP, UR, TU

SUBJECT: BIO INFORMATION ON NEW TURKISH AMBASSADOR TO USSR

1. AMBASSADOR NAMIK YOLGA HAS BEEN APPOINTED TURKISH AMBASSADOR TO THE USSR AND WILL BE LEAVING FOR MOSCOW SHORTLY. A HIGHLY EXPERIENCED CAREER DIPLOMAT, HE HAS BEEN AMBASSADOR TO ITALY (1963-65), FRANCE (1965-66), VENEZUELA (1966-69), AND IRAN (1969-72). SINCE 1972 HE HAS BEEN IN CHARGE OF LAW OF THE SEA MATTERS IN THE MFA, AND HEADED THE TURKISH DELEGATION TO SEVERAL INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES ON THE LAW OF THE SEA.

2. BORN IN ELAZIG, TURKEY, IN 1914, YOLGA IS A GRADUATE OF THE SIVAS LYCEE AND THE POLITICAL SCIENCE FACULTY OF ANKARA UNIVERSITY (1936). AFTER FULFILLING HIS MILITARY OBLIGATION (1936-37), YOLGA ENTERED THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS IN 1937. HE SERVED FOR A TIME DURING WORLD WAR II AS VICE CONSUL IN PARIS. BEFORE MOVING TO ROME AS FIRST SECRETARY IN 1947, YOLGA SERVED IN THE MINISTRY AS THE SECRETARY GENERAL'S SECRETARIAT DIRECTOR (IN EFFECT, CHEF DU CABINET TO THE PERMANENT UNDERSECRETARY). BY 1959 HE HAD BECOME CHAIRMAN OF THE MINISTRY'S POLITICAL PLANNING GROUP, AND HE WAS MFA SECRETARY GENERAL (PERMANENT UNDERSECRETARY) FROM 1960 TO 1963.

3. MARRIED, THE AMBASSADOR HAS TWO DAUGHTERS. HE ENJOYS PAINTING, PHOTOGRAPHY AND PHILATELY. YOLGA SPEAKS FRENCH AND ITALIAN FLUENTLY, HAS A FAIR COMMAND OF ENGLISH, AND HAS A
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SLIGHT KNOWLEDGE OF GERMAN AND SPANISH. HE IS A SHORT, SQUAT

MAN WITH GREYING HAIR. ALTHOUGH NOT VERY COMMUNICATIVE, HE
HAS ALWAYS BEEN VERY WARM AND FRIENDLY IN DEALINGS WITH THIS
EMBASSY.
MACOMBER

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